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 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2634
 INFO RUEHAD/USINT BAGHDAD 0259
 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 4531
 RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 4561
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6132
 RUFHRS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0206
 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1026
 RUEHRH/USELO RIYADH 0354
 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 1027
 RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 1271
 RUQMKW/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0588
 RUQMBI/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0572
 RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0537
 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3094
 RUQMAM/AMEMBASSY MANAMA 0635
 RUQMMT/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 0316
 RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0209
 RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO 0436
 BT
 C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 03731

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: IN, IZ, PMOPS, PK
 SUBJECT: ESCALATION OF IRAN-IRAQ WAR: DISCUSSION WITH
 - PAKISTANI MFA

REF: A. STATE 048384; B. ISLAMABAD 03536

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ON FEBRUARY 21 POLCOUNSELOR MET WITH MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR THE MIDDLE EAST, TARIQ MIR, TO BRIEF THE GOP ON THE ESCALATION IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, TO REVIEW OUR DEMARCHE IN BAGHDAD, AND TO REQUEST THE GOP TO MAKE A SIMILAR APPROACH IN TEHRAN. (NOTE: REF A ARRIVED HERE ON FEBRUARY 20 AS ONLY NIACT IMMEDIATE TRAFFIC WAS TRANSMITTED OVER THE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND.)

3. ON FEBRUARY 23 MIR TOLD POLCOUNSELOR THAT GOP HAS MADE A NUMBER OF EFFORTS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN BOTH BAGHDAD AND TEHRAN TO URGE RESTRAINT ON BOTH SIDES. THE GOP HAS EXPRESSED BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY ITS DEEP CONCERN, ITS ANGUISH AT THE LOSS OF LIFE, AND HAS URGENTLY CALLED FOR RESTRAINT. THE QUESTION OF A FURTHER APPROACH AT THIS TIME IS PRESENTLY UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION, BUT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT BOTH IRAN AND IRAQ UNDERSTAND THE GOP'S VIEW.

4. WE WOULD ADD THAT PRESIDENT ZIA HAS DISCUSSED HIS

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EVALUATION OF THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR WITH OSDEL TOWER THIS
WEEKEND (REF B). PRESIDENT ZIA AND FOREIGN MINISTER
YAQUB KHAN ARE PRESENTLY IN BRUNEI TO ATTEND THE
INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION. IT IS UNLIKELY, THEREFORE,
THAT ANY FURTHER HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH TO EITHER TEHRAN OR
BAGHDAD WILL BE MADE UNTIL THEY RETURN.

RATTRAY

END OF MESSAGE

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